



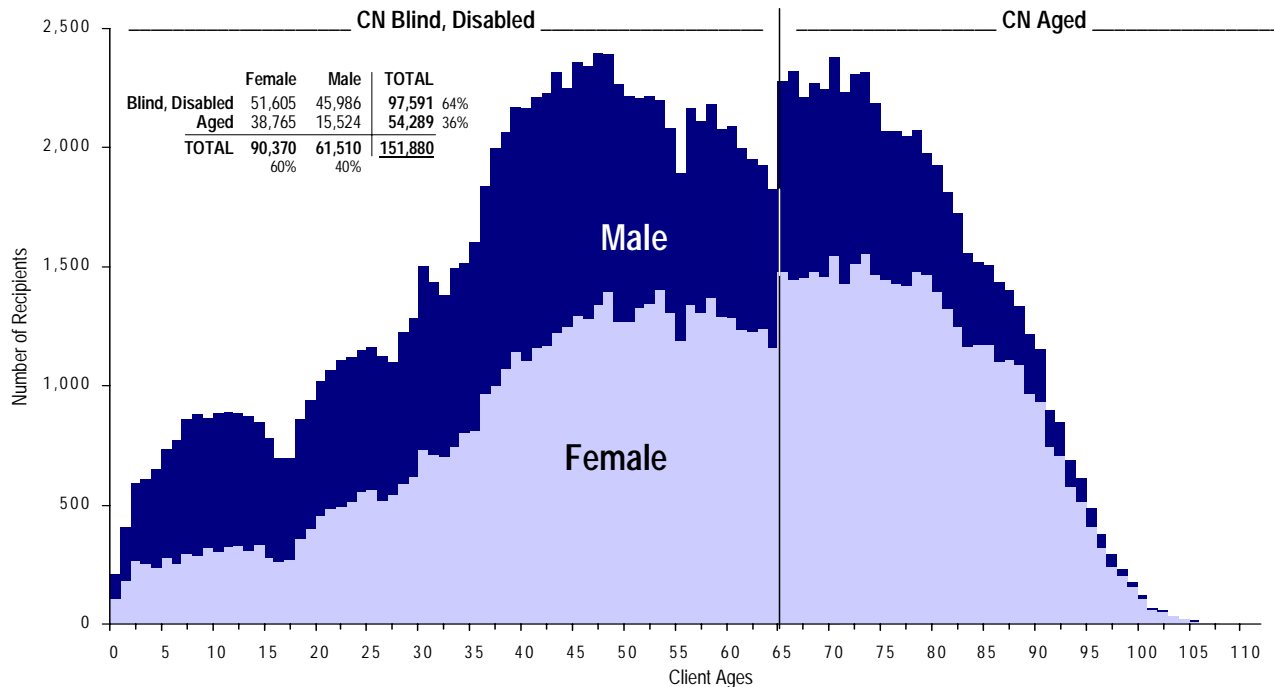
## Aged, Blind & Disabled Categorically Needy PEOPLE AND THEIR NEEDS

April 3, 2001

**B**EHIND EACH state-assisted hospital admission and every emergency room, outpatient, and doctor visit there is a story – a story about a person in need, without resources to pay for care, and without hope for their physical well being other than the assistance they can get from the Medical Assistance Administration. In the brief descriptions that follow, we provide several examples of clients, their medical problems, and the services they received under the Aged, Blind, Disabled Medical Assistance program during 2000. To protect confidentiality, information that may identify specific individuals is not disclosed. *An informal glossary follows the case histories for any words in Italics.*

### Ranging from Birth to 111 Years

Includes Dual Eligible Population



### Client Case Histories

A 73 year-old woman that currently resides in an apartment in Tacoma and has been on the aged program since April 1997. During FY 2000 she had diagnoses of *cervical spondylosis*, pain in the limb, cataracts, menstrual disorder, urinary incontinence, female genital symptoms, *osteoarthritis*, chest pain and dizziness. She visited the physician 11 times for these problems, went to the outpatient hospital 4 times, received physical therapy treatments 5 times for cervical spondylosis, used diapers for urinary incontinence, went to the dentist 6 times for upper dentures, cleaning and x-rays, and had a total of 18 prescriptions filled.

Living in a private residence in Seattle, a 48 year-old woman has been on the Disabled program since October 1998. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of female genital problems and corneal opacity; visited the physician 3 times, went to an ophthalmologist twice for the corneal opacity, and had 90 prescriptions filled.

A 47 year-old woman that currently resides in an apartment in East Wenatchee and has been on the Disabled program since September 1975. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of skin anomaly, *enthesopathy* of the knee, psychosis, *ichthyosis congenita*, vaginitis, urinary tract infection and anhidrosis. She visited the physician 13 times, was an outpatient at the hospital twice for psychosis, received psychiatric care 5 times and had 183 prescriptions filled.

A 75 year-old woman that currently resides in a private residence in Longview and has been on the Aged program since June 1999. In FY 2000 she has had diagnoses of gastroenteritis, *peripheral vascular disease*, open wound of the foot, varicose veins with ulceration of the leg and cough. She visited the physician 6 times for these problems and had 51 prescriptions filled.

On the Disabled program since January 1972, a 47 year-old man who resides in a private Vancouver residence. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of *glaucoma* and cramp in limb. He visited the physician 6 times, had a *trabeculectomy* in an ambulatory surgicenter, had a tooth extracted at the dentist and had 11 prescriptions filled.

A 54 year-old that lives in a private Kirkland residence and has been on the Blind program since June 1999. In FY 2000, her primary diagnosis was diabetes. She visited the physician once, obtained test trips and two replacement batteries for her glucometer, and had one prescription.

A 47 year-old woman who first became eligible for the Disabled program in April 1987. She currently resides in an apartment in Richland. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of bipolar manic-depressive psychosis, chronic rhinitis, and open wound to the finger. She visited the physician 9 times, went to the outpatient hospital for the open finger wound, had psychotherapy 9 times for psychosis and visited the dentist once to have her teeth cleaned and x-rayed.

A 74 year-old man that resides in an adult personal care residence in Yakima and has been on the Aged program since August 1994. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of acute bronchitis, pneumonia, *disc disorder* of the lumbar region, Alzheimer's Disease and cataracts. He went to the physician 5 times for these problems had physical therapy 5 times for the disc disorder, and had 9 prescriptions filled.

A 47 year-old woman that currently resides in a Everett apartment and has been on the Disabled program since February 1975. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of uterine leiomyoma and absence of menstruation. She visited the physician twice, received outpatient hospital care twice, and had 36 prescriptions filled.

A 74 year-old woman that currently resides in a Tacoma apartment and has been on the Aged program since April 1997. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of cough, organic brain syndrome, diabetes, superficial injury, hypertension, heart disease and *macular degeneration*. She went to the physician 21 times for these problems, went to the outpatient hospital for diabetes twice and once for her cough, had a refraction and received bifocal glasses, received an 8 month's supply of diapers and had 77 prescriptions filled.

A 47 year-old man that currently resides in a private residence in Seattle and has been on the Disabled program since July 1993. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of *lumbago*, lumbar disc displacement and abdominal pain. He visited the physician 10 times, was hospitalized 2 days for a lumbar *laminectomy*, went to the dentist 7 times for root canals, fillings and x-rays with cleaning, was in the outpatient hospital twice for the *lumbar disc displacement* and had 31 prescriptions filled.

A 75 year-old man that currently resides in Kelso and has been on the Aged program since December 1993. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of *hyperlipidemia*, *trigeminal neuralgia*, other disease of lung, *cardiac dysrhythmia*, headache, cough, *infectious otitis externa*, abnormal findings lung, chronic leg ulcer, and *idiopathic peripheral neuropathy*. He visited the physician 21 times for these problems, went to the outpatient hospital twice and had 34 prescriptions filled.

A 72 year-old man that currently resides in a Spokane apartment and has been on the Aged program since June 1994. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of cellulitis, *hyperlipidemia*, brain condition, malaise/fatigue, type II diabetes mellitus, dizziness, *cerebral occlusion*, speech disturbance, corneal ulcer, CVA, ingrown nail and *inguinal hernia*. He went to the physician 46 times, went to the outpatient hospital 4 times, went to the dentist once, and had 64 prescriptions filled.

Living in a private residence in Des Moines, a 48 year-old man has been on the disabled program since February 1998. During FY 2000, he had a diagnosis of convulsions, visited the physician 3 times, and had 14 prescription fills.

A 48 year-old woman that currently residents in a private residence in Aberdeen and has been on the Disabled program since September 1978. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses *malignant neoplasm of the breast* and amputation of the leg below the knee. She visited the physician 17 times, had excision of the malignant breast lesion and radiation therapy in the outpatient hospital 4 times, visited the dentist once for cleaning, x-rays and one filling and had 18 prescriptions filled.

A 73 year-old man that currently resides in a Mount Vernon apartment and has been on the Aged program since July 1999. During FY 2000 he had diagnoses of hypertension, dental disorder, lab exam, dermatitis, malaise/fatigue, *melen*, gastrointestinal hemorrhage, *hypopotassemia*, anemia, hernia, abnormal findings in stool, hematemesis, *gouty arthropathy* and pain in limb. He went to the physician 11 times, went to the outpatient hospital 7 times, was hospitalized for 6 days for iron deficiency anemia and a hernia, went to the dentist once for an exam and extraction, and had 18 prescriptions filled.

A 73 year-old woman that currently resides in an adult personal care home in Tacoma and has been on the Aged program since August 1994. During FY 2000, required interpreter services, and had diagnoses of abdominal pain, CVA, screening mammography, acute sinusitis, chronic sinusitis, joint pain, acute pharyngitis, headache, allergic conjunctivitis and neck sprain. She visited the physician 27 times, went to the outpatient hospital once, received a bath bench, and had 33 prescriptions filled.

A 48 year-old man that currently resides in an apartment in Renton and has been on the Disabled program since August 1987. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of depressive disorder, testicular hypofunction and nasal/sinus disorder. He visited the physician 33 times, went to the outpatient hospital 17 times, went to the dentist 4 times for fillings, cleaning and x-rays and had 33 prescriptions filled.

A 48 year-old man that currently resides in a the Tri Cities apartment and has been on the Disabled program since February 1983. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of palpitations, elevated blood pressure, benign hypertension, obsessive/compulsive disorder, hysteria and depressive disorder. He visited the physician 11 times for these problems, went to the outpatient hospital twice, went to the dentist 6 times for extractions and dentures and had 23 prescriptions filled.

An 81 year-old woman that currently resides in a nursing home in Seattle and has been on the Aged program since May 1991. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of urinary tract infection, coronary atherosclerosis, angina, chest pain, myocardial infarction, diabetes, borderline personality, gastroenteritis and rectal hemorrhage. She visited the physician 13 times, went to the dentist 3 times for oral exams and relining of dentures, had 10 medical vendor claims for oxygen, was hospitalized 3 times and had 320 prescriptions filled.

A 94 year-old man that currently resides in a nursing home in Tacoma and has been on the Aged program since March 1994. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of diabetes, diabetic retinopathy, CVA, cervicgia, open wound of scalp, organic delusional syndrome, open wound of head, dermatophytoses of nail. He visited the physician 11 times, had psychiatric management once, 9 medical vendor claims for a wheelchair and IV therapy, 12 nursing home claims, and had 104 prescriptions filled.

An 87 year-old woman that currently resides in a private residence in Bothel and has been on the Aged program since May 1996. During FY 2000, she had diagnoses of incontinence, CVA, and upper respiratory infection. She visited the physician 5 times, was an inpatient 4 times, had 20 medical vendor claims, and 81 prescriptions filled.

A 40 year-old man that resides in an Aberdeen apartment has been on the Blind program since January 2000. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of depression, severe psychosis, inflamed seborrhegic keratosis, lumbago, and manic disorder. He visited a physician 13 times, visited a dentist once, and had no prescriptions filled.

A 22 year-old man that currently resides in a private residence in Moses Lake and has been on the Disabled program since September 1991. During FY 2000, he had diagnoses of asthma, respiratory system disease, dizziness, alcohol withdrawal and wheezing. He visited the physician 3 times, a mental health provider twice, was hospitalized 8 times, had 3 medical vendor claims, and had 7 prescriptions filled.

## Informal Glossary

**Cardiac dysrhythmia:** Abnormal heart beat or heart muscle contraction pattern.

**Cerebral occlusion:** Narrowing of the arteries that supply the brain.

**Coronary atherosclerosis:** Disease of the arteries within the heart, frequently resulting in lack of blood flow to areas of the heart muscle.

**CVA:** Cerebro-Vascular Accident. Generally known as a stroke—any sudden change in blood supply to one or more parts of the brain, which may result in weakness, numbness, speech difficulty, cognitive difficulty, or a similar state.

**Disc disorder:** A problem of some kind with one or more intervertebral discs. On occasion the discs may become inflamed, bulge, or be displaced, resulting in tingling, pain or weakness of the associated spinal nerve/s and the muscles they serve.

**Disc:** Plates of fibrous tissue that separate the vertebral bones in the spinal column; normally responsible for “shock absorption.”

**Enthesopathy:** Inflammation of muscle tendon at point of attachment to bone.

**Epistaxis:** Nosebleed.

**Glaucoma:** Condition that results in increased pressure within the eye.

**Gouty arthropathy:** Joint pain and inflammation caused by of uric acid crystals in the joint.

**Hyperlipidemia:** Abnormal high level of lipids (fats) in the blood.

**Hypopotassemia:** Abnormal low level of potassium in the blood. May be associated with poor nutrition, dehydration, and/or medication side effects.

**Ichthyosis congenita:** An inherited condition resulting in dry, scaly skin.

**Idiopathic:** Of unknown cause.

**Infectious otitis externa:** External ear infection.

**Inguinal hernia:** Intestinal bulge into the groin area.

**Laminectomy:** Removal of a portion of vertebral bone, often done to relieve spinal nerve root pressure and pain.

**Lumbago:** Lower back pain.

**Lumbar disc displacement:** Abnormal movement/position of one or more intervertebral discs in the lower back.

**Macular degeneration:** Breakdown or decay of the macular portion of the retina, the retinal area responsible for the highest visual acuity.

**Malignant neoplasm of the breast:** Breast cancer.

**Melena:** Blood in the stool.

**Osteoarthritis:** Chronic joint inflammation leading to joint degeneration and loss of joint function.

**Palpitation:** Cardiac dysrhythmia as felt by patient.

**Peripheral neuropathy:** Degeneration/breakdown of the nerves that supply the limbs, frequently resulting in pain, numbness. May be associated with ulcers.

**Peripheral vascular disease:** Progressive occlusion of the arteries that supply the limbs.

**Pharyngitis:** Sore throat.

**Spondylosis:** Breakdown or decay of disc spaces between the spinal vertebra.

**Trabeculectomy:** Eye surgery for treatment of glaucoma.

**Trigeminal neuralgia:** Episodes of severe facial pain, associated with a specific nerve.